

**Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant  
Citizens Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
September 16, 2004**

The September 16, 2004 Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) meeting was held at the CAB office in Paducah, Kentucky at 5:30 p.m.

**Board members present:** Barry Eadens, Rhonda McCorry, Chad Kerley, Ricky Ladd, Bobby Lee, Linda Long, Douglas Raper, John Russell, Jim Smart, Dorothy Starr, and Bill Tanner

**Board members absent:** Richard Dyer and Vicki Jones

***Ex Officio* members and related regulatory agency employees present:** Gaye Brewer, Mike Guffey, Tuss Taylor, Vicki Voisard, Kentucky Division of Waste Management; Doug Dawson, Mike Hardin, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

**Deputy Designated Federal Official present:** William Murphie

**DOE Paducah/Portsmouth Chief Operating Officer:** Rachel Blumenfeld

**DOE Federal Coordinator present:** David Dollins

**DOE-related employees present:** Greg Bazzell, Tracey Brindley, Greg Cook, Kim Crenshaw, Jim Ethridge, Greg Felts, Steve Kay, Ray Miskelley, Kendra Payne, Bruce Phillips, John Sheppard, Joe Tarantino, and Glenn VanSickle

**Public:** John Anderson, Trisha Bernardo, Eric DeHart, Ruby English, Rachel Hubbard, Craig Hughes, Charles Jurka, Vicki Jurka, and Jeremy Morehead

## **Introductions**

Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He introduced Mike Hardin as the new ex-officio member to the CAB representing the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR).

## **Agenda**

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the agenda. There were no modifications. **The Board adopted the agenda by consensus.**

## **Minutes**

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the draft August minutes. There were no modifications. **The Board approved the minutes by consensus.**

Tanner stated Lee had requested changes to the July minutes after approved at the August Board meeting. He said the change involved a statement that was made by Dollins instead of Lee. There were no objections to the requested change to the July minutes.

## **Election of Chair and Chair-Elect**

Raper reported Tanner was the only nominee for Chair. Kay asked if there were any other nominations by the board. He asked if there were any objections to electing Tanner as Chair by acclamation. There were no objections. Raper stated Kerley and Long were nominated for Chair-Elect but Long declined the nomination. Kay asked if there were any other nominations by the Board. Kay asked if there were any objections to electing Kerley as Chair-Elect by acclamation. There were no objections.

## **Deputy Designated Federal Official's Comments**

### **Support Service Contract**

Murphie stated the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a letter to Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC (BJC) requesting continuity between the new and old contractor consistent with the transition to an 8(a) Small Business contract for support services.

## **Recommendations**

Murphie said the CAB would be provided with the response for the C-400 Source Removal recommendation, as well as all written responses that had been previously provided verbally.

## **Progress of the Paducah Project**

Murphie reported August progress as follows:

- A number of non-conformances in waste transportation have occurred since June 2004. Shipments have been suspended to all off-site facilities, including the on-site C-746-U Landfill. Suspension of shipments is having significant impact on several projects. A corrective action plan and revised program must be complete and validated before shipments resume.
- The Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF<sub>6</sub>) Conversion Facility detention basin is nearly complete. Construction of the buildings is scheduled to begin in the Spring.
- The C-400 Source Removal Record of Decision was submitted to the regulators for review on August 16. The Southwest Plume Site Investigation has been completed. Installation of four contingency monitoring wells is underway, and the Site Investigation Report is being developed. Fieldwork for the S&T Landfill Investigation is complete. Installation of two contingency monitoring wells is underway.
- The Surface Water Operable Unit Sampling and Analysis Plan is under review. Due to the complexity of the project, DOE and the regulators continue to work for resolution of characterization issues.
- The Burial Grounds Operable Unit Scoping Document is due to regulators on November 1, 2004. A Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study is due to regulators on June 30, 2005.
- 11,000 ft<sup>3</sup> of DOE Material Storage Area (DMSA) material was characterized in August. Aggressive disposal is ongoing with 580,000 ft<sup>3</sup> disposed over the project life. Only three DMSAs remain to be emptied.
- DOE has completed the shipment of 54 Hydrogen Fluoride tanks to ToxCo for reuse. Fluorine cell blasting has been completed at the C-410 Decontamination and Decommissioning complex.
- DOE received a proposal on September 7 for the support services contract. The proposal is currently under review and the contract is scheduled to be in place by October 1.
- A Risk-Based End State (RBES) Workshop is scheduled for October 6-7 in Chicago in cooperation with the National Governor's Association.

## Comments

Russell requested the location of the contingency monitoring wells for the Southwest Plume. Murphie said that information would be provided to Russell.

Tanner asked which buildings on the DUF<sub>6</sub> project would be under construction in the Spring. Murphie stated the administration and warehouse building would be constructed, followed by the footprint of the conversion facility, after approval is granted. He said a meeting is scheduled with the Safety and Transportation Department's Deputy Secretary in October.

Tanner asked if the problems at the Paducah Site and other sites around the complex could be a result of the accelerated cleanup program. He said he is concerned this trend of accidents will continue. Murphie said DOE Headquarters is taking these matters very seriously.

Russell stated both the Southwest Plume and the C-746-S&T Site Investigations was intended to answer the question of whether or not the burial grounds were contributing to the contamination of the plumes. He said that question has not been answered. He asked if the scoping of the Burial Ground Operable Unit is premature or if the investigations were unnecessary. Murphie said the results have not been received from the investigations to define the path for remediation. He said he would update the CAB monthly on this issue.

Ladd suggested employee involvement would be beneficial to the review of the overall BJC Paducah process for waste certification and shipment. Murphie said the investigation does involve talking with the employees who are participants in the shipment process.

Tanner said he had received a letter from Steve Hampson, Kentucky Research Consortium for Energy and the Environment (KRCEE), advising the CAB that the KRCEE is beginning to develop a scope of work relative to the characterization and assessment of ecological impacts of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant based on discussions that followed his presentation at the August meeting. He said Hampson would provide further information about the scope of the ecological work, as it becomes available. Lee and Hardin requested a copy of the information that was sent to Tanner.

Lee asked when the Southwest Plume Site Investigation data would be validated. Murphie said it would be available by the end of September, but would provide her a more firm date.

Ladd inquired about the employee forecast after the infrastructure and remediation contracts were awarded. Murphie said DOE had no intention of reducing the workforce, only changing the contract.

## **Federal Coordinator Comments**

Dollins said the response to the C-400 Source Removal recommendation will be distributed to all Board members the following week.

## **Ex-officio Comments**

### **Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources**

Hardin stated that he appreciated the CAB adding the ecological framework to the Long-Range task force agenda. He asked the CAB to please share any information that is obtained from the KRCEE with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

### **Kentucky Division of Waste Management**

Taylor said the hazardous waste permit has one outstanding issue that would soon be resolved and the permit would be issued in September.

## **Task Forces/Presentations**

### **Waste Disposition Task Force**

Russell reported the Waste Disposition task force is preparing for a presentation on the C-746-U Landfill in November. He stated the task force discussed the KRCEE presentation and is following the scoping for the Burial Grounds Operable Unit, with a possible presentation in January.

### **Water Quality Task Force**

Smart reported the Water Quality task force has received updates on the Southwest Plume and the C-746-S&T Landfills. He said an invitation was sent to Dave Morgan, Kentucky Division of Water, to attend a task force meeting to discuss issues relating to the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

### **Long Range Strategy/Stewardship**

Kerley said the Long Range Strategy/Stewardship task force has requested an update on the DUF<sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility project at the October meeting. He stated Tim Kreher, KDFWR, led a discussion on the ecological framework study. He said a letter of support and gratitude will be sent to the KRCEE for allowing the ecological study into their scope of work and also requesting results when the study is complete.

## **Chairs Meeting**

Board members reviewed and modified the templates that will be presented at the October Chairs Meeting in Hanford.

## **Community Outreach**

Lee said the task force is progressing on the website and working toward a community survey. She requested Payne resend the email to determine exactly what the Board wants to gain from the survey. She said the Community Outreach task force would like input from each board member.

## **Administrative Issues**

### **Review of Workplan**

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the workplan. There were none.

### **Review of October Agenda**

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the agenda. Russell requested adding a review of the RBES Workshop to the agenda. Tanner stated the Surface Water Operable Unit presentation has been moved to November. Lee requested adding web site design to the Community Outreach presentation.

## **Action Items**

The action item for Dollins to provide the CAB with written responses to the three recommendations that had previously received verbal responses, has been closed.

Kay reported that all action items are now closed except for the preparation of the Risk Assessment Workshop. Tanner reported the support staff is working with Sonya Pennock, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8, to attend the Annual Planning Retreat and discuss risk assessment at that time. Blumenfeld suggested availability of someone from Region 4 if Pennock is not able to attend.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

### **Executive Committee**

Tanner stated the Executive Committee is working on the agenda for the Annual Planning Retreat. The retreat is scheduled for November 5 and 6. Tanner said the Self-Evaluation Surveys should be completed and provided to Kay before the end of the meeting.

## **Proposed Membership**

Raper reported the Membership Ad Hoc subcommittee had interviewed and ranked two applicants to fill current vacancies. He stated the applicants were asked questions concerning conflict of interest, consensus building, and the amount of time they could dedicate to the Board. **The Board approved the ranking of applicants for recommendation of membership to DOE by majority.**

The Board proposed two additional applicants to enter the membership pool. One applicant was approved by consensus and the other applicant will return to the Membership Ad Hoc subcommittee for further discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.